



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2, 2005

Four Individuals Fined, Sentenced to Prison for Conspiracy, Identity Thief, Theft of Public Funds

ATLANTA—On November 29, Judge Thomas W. Thrash, Jr., United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, fined three individuals and sentenced them to prison after they pleaded guilty to numerous counts of conspiracy, aggravated identity theft, and theft of public funds. A fourth person previously pleaded guilty and was sentenced on November 16 for the same violations.

"I thank the U.S. Attorney General's office and the other federal special agents for their hard work in bringing these cases to a successful conclusion," said Georgia Revenue Commissioner Bart L. Graham.

Sentences were given to Christian Nlandu Mbengo, 33, of Suwanee, Ga., Lathndoumbe Amadou Ndiaye, 32, of Atlanta, Patrick Matanda, 37, of Suwanee, Ga., and Moussa Badarou, 39, of Doraville, Ga.

On November 16, Mbengo was sentenced to 70 months confinement and ordered to pay \$29,607.74 in restitution to the Georgia Department of Revenue and \$848,518.76 to the Internal Revenue Service.

On November 29, Ndiaye was sentenced to 56 months imprisonment and ordered to pay \$135,558.05 in restitution to the Bureau of Public Debt, plus pay a special assessment of \$300.

Matanda was sentenced to 56 months confinement and ordered to pay \$1,202 in restitution to the Georgia Department of Revenue and \$244,923.31 to the Bureau of Public Debt. He also was ordered to pay an additional \$1,200 special assessment.

Badarou was sentenced to 51 months imprisonment and ordered to pay \$4,802 to the Georgia Department of Revenue and \$170,923.40 to the Bureau of Public Debt. He also was ordered to pay an additional \$300 special assessment.

All four were placed on three years supervised release and are to be remanded to immigration officials upon completion of their terms of imprisonment for deportation proceedings.

Cases against all four were initially developed by the Georgia Department of Revenue's Fraud Investigations Unit. Their investigation discovered that all four individuals had used fraudulent identities and forms when filing both state and federal income tax returns between 1999 and 2003. During that period, the four received 120 refund checks from Georgia totaling \$242,311.16.

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